

CLAPPS POND Provincetown Barnstable County Cape Cod Watershed Latitude: 42.0525671 N Longitude: 70.2069447 W



40 Acres Depth: 3 feet Average 4 feet Maximum Primary Gamefish: Chain Pickerel

General Information:

Clapps Pond, also known as Clappers Pond, is a very shallow, acidic, 40 acre warmwater pond located at the far eastern tip of Cape Cod. Maximum depth is just 4 feet; average depth is roughly 3 feet. The pond is so weedy as to be swamp-like, and transparency is extremely poor, extending to just a foot or so. The watercolor is stained dark brown. The bottom is muck and the 1.8 miles of shoreline are undeveloped. According to Green et al 2006 The Names of Cape Cod, the pond is named for William Clapp who lived in the area around 1705 and was appointed an inspector of "drift whales at the Cape"

Access:

Access to Clapps Pond is located off Route 6 and is provided by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife through the Clapps Pond Access and Wildlife Management Area. A dirt road provides access to a small area suitable for launching cartop boats and canoes. A four-wheel drive vehicle or pickup truck is recommended. The entire shoreline is protected by the state or the Cape Cod National Seashore.

Management History:

The pond's fisheries were first surveyed on August 12, 1911 and good pickerel fishing was reported. Largemouth bass fingerlings were stocked in 1921. A fish survey on September 9, 1952 found largemouth bass and chain pickerel. A September 16, 1974 spot check found largemouth bass, pumpkinseed sunfish and chain pickerel.

Fish Populations:

The fish population was last fully sampled in 1981, at which time four species were captured: chain pickerel, brown bullhead, largemouth bass and pumpkinseed. In 1985, golden shiner and possibly redfin pickerel were also reported.

Fishing:

This pond is very difficult to fish because of the dense weeds. However, although the scenery is nice, there is not much here that will prove attractive to anglers in search of excitement or table fare. The pond is infertile and acidified, and as a result the fish population is very sparse. Chain pickerel are the only gamefish that would offer any recreational fishing, and they exhibit below average growth. Other nearby ponds are Pilgrim Lake and Great Pond in Truro.

Updated: February 9, 2007 S.T.H